

SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC HERALD

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Socialism and Health.

The working class in an unhealthy class. The fault must be laid at the door of class oppression, at the door of capitalism.

It is with the human as with vegetable life. Disease only results when wrong conditions exist. If a plant is grown in suitable soil, if it has sufficient sunshine and rain, it is bound to thrive. Even parasites avoid it. If it be planted in unsuitable soil, in denied sunlight and sufficient moisture, it becomes sickly, grows in an unhealthy way and invites disease and other vermin. Plants grown from its seed lack vitality and can only be brought back to the proper degree of vigor by careful attention to environment. Nature is jealous of its rights. If nature's laws are violated, nature punishes. It shows no mercy.

Humanity is no exception to the rule. If people through poverty, and the resulting wrong ideas of healthful conditions, live in insanitary houses, in ill-ventilated rooms, without the purifying rays of the sunlight; if for fear of wanting their dearly bought warmth in winter they allow their houses to fill with stale air; if they permit themselves to work in badly-ventilated shops and smoky, dusty factories, nature will accept no excuses, and disease, either in the form of acute fever or slow-burning chronic malady, will supervene.

Diseases like smallpox, diphtheria and the like are known to medical men as "filth diseases." They only exist because people do not live in a proper way and they are much more prevalent in districts where people, because of their poverty, live in insanitary homes and hovels. Without taking sides in the controversy over vaccination with cow-pox to prevent smallpox, we may mention the fact that statistics and investigations in the matter in England showed that the decrease in the prevalence of the disease in recent years was due to the fact that the towns and cities were more sanitary than they were formerly and that because of better knowledge of the laws of health, the people were cleaner in their living habits. Sewerage systems carried off the waste matters that were formerly thrown in gutters or outside back doors.

Investigations a few years ago into the source of the cholera scourge that swept across Europe showed that it began among the ignorant tribes of Mohammedans, who for religious reasons made yearly pilgrimages to the Ganges river, which in summer was shrunk into a succession of pools of stagnant water, that they camped round these pools by thousands, all the filth from the camps washing down the banks into the already polluted water, in which they continued to bathe and even to drink the "sacred water."

Investigation has shown that the plague of yellow fever that has killed so many of our people in the Southern states, has almost always had its beginning in Havanna, Cuba, where no sewage system exists and where carcases of animals and other offal lay left festering in the hot streets. Nature's penalties follow swift and sure.

The modern factory existence of our toilers is not conducive to health. The poller of the mill operative, the miner, the foundryman, shows that nature in extending no mercy. Police officials will tell you that a man recently released from prison can be picked out in a crowd by the pallor of his face. "Prison bleach" they call it. Statistics show also that the mortality in the dusty trades is greater where the work is carried on indoors. House air and house dust are both unhealthy. The less pure air workers breathe the greater are they subject to lung diseases.

And so the workers ought to lose no chance to demand the best possible conditions for factory work. Improvement will only come with struggle, but their lives and the well being of their children are at stake. If a schoolhouse should be well lighted so should a factory. If a schoolhouse should be protected from smoky air and swampy surroundings so should a work shop. Join the Social Democratic party, which is working along these lines, for power comes through organization.

During slavery days in the South the little black children, before their frames were firmly knit and braced for the struggle of life, were free to run in the sunshine, their food and shelter was sure and adequate and they played with all the irrepressible joy of childhood on the mellow soil of the plantations. Yet they were slaves!

At the present time the Yankee profit skinner of New England—the "eminent respectable," if you please—have invaded the free south, and little white children are hurried from their beds before daylight to the great cotton factory-prisons, and there kept out of the sunlight and away from the grass and the trees for twelve hours daily, working at an exhausting toil, monotonous, gloomy, laughter-hating toil. And the doctors say their space of life averages but a few years, after the factory gets hold of them. Yet they are free!

Under chattel slavery, human beings were property and hence their health and soundness was guarded by the owner, the same as that of a horse. And

a shout of joy, the world over, went up when the slaves were set free.

There is a new set of slaves in the South. They are the poor whites. The factory owners do not own their bodies, only their labor power. The result is that the owners are under no necessity to keep their bodies in health. That is no concern of theirs; they pay for what they get. There are others ready to take their places if they fail to do the work. And so the factories exploit them most brutally. Only death can set them free. And this is a Christian nation, we are told! And Uncle Tom's Cabin was written by a New England woman.

Chicago has a chief of police who ought to be the laughing stock of the whole country. He attended a convention of chiefs at Louisville the other day and there delivered himself of the claim that anarchism was founded on the writings of Karl Marx! If he had said that Beelzebub wrote the New Testament he couldn't have made a bigger ass of himself. A year or so ago a man out of work stood up on the lake front in Chicago and began to recite the Declaration of Independence. A policeman stood listening for a while and finally stopped him with the remark: "You'll just drop off on that anarchist talk, my fine fellow, or I'll run ye in." And that ignorant copper and the present chief of police may be one and the same person for all we know.

Unions and The Schools.

Each election since the Social Democratic party has been in existence in Milwaukee it has placed in its municipal platform a demand that the halls in the public school buildings be thrown open to the people at a nominal cost, for the purpose of holding public meetings. This year fully nine-sevenths of the voters of Milwaukee endorsed the demand.

To carry out such a wise proposal, action would be required by officials in a position to legislate to that end. But the legislative offices have been occupied by politicians, by lackeys of capitalism, Republican and Democratic, and their interests are not served by public discussions of public matters by the people. The less the people consider such matters the easier it is for the politicians to command their votes. Quite naturally, therefore, the proposal of the Social Democrats was treated with silent contempt.

In recent years a great reform of the school board system of Milwaukee was hailed. The school system was "taken out of politics," for the capitalist class is always making a play at rescuing various things from itself! The school board was taken still further away from the people. This was "to get it out of politics." Now the mayor appoints four men, who are given the power of naming the various school commissioners. This is the way the people control their schools! A guileless person, therefore, would have supposed that the proposal of the Social Democrats about the school halls would have been immediately taken up by the gentlemen of the school board, who are "out of politics," you know. Not so. It is wrong to charge the school commissioners with being out of politics.

But the proposal of the Social Democrats is as valuable today as it was when first made. As the "representatives" of the people in the school board will not act in the interests of the people, the people must bestir themselves.

We propose, therefore, that the trade unions of the city formally apply to the school board for permission to hold meetings in the various school halls of the city, offering to pay a reasonable sum for the cost of light and extra janitor service. The unions, thanks to the plucking process of the present industrial system, are composed of poor men. The halls they meet in at present are dingy and mean, and badly ventilated, because they cannot afford to hire better ones. After a hard day's toil, to sit in a crowded room till late in the evening, with the prospect of getting but a short rest in bed before having to start to work again in the morning, is a point that ought to appeal to the school commissioners, if they have the race interest at heart.

At any rate, give them a chance to show where they stand.

"Three great Americans in a day succumb to the 'strain that kills,' each a striking example of the man of today, working at a nervous tension far in excess of his physical strength," says the New York World, referring to Bret Harte, Rear Admiral Sampson and Archbishop Corrigan. But there are others who are daily killed by the strain of overexertion, and they are found in the army of toil. Many and many a toiler is working every day and hiding maladies and chronic ailments that ought to take him to the hospital, for fear the job that brings in bread for the little ones will be lost. The shops, mines and factories are full of heroes the world never hears of. But outside of these also there are many in comparative health who are submitting to the slow murder of a daily toil that cuts years off the ends of their lives. Statistics show the average terms of life in certain trades to be influenced by those trades. The worker and the "gentleman" are not even in the same class in this respect, let alone all others.

THE TRUST PROBLEM, AS SOCIALISTS SEE IT.

There is now a great deal of anti-trust feeling and anti-trust agitation in the air. The fact of the matter is: the trusts make much more rapid progress than does the popular understanding of them.

The capitalization of these trade combinations proceeds not by millions but by billions. Everybody sees that they are engrossing the national resources and the business of the country—that in confederation with the railroad companies they form a power with which individual competition is impossible and against which the existing machinery of the law is impotent.

In reality the trust is but a normal product of modern conditions—a legitimate child of steam and electricity. The trusts and combinations are the same improvements in business that improvements of machinery are to labor.

The popular anti-trust sentiment is the rioting against the introduction of the spinning jenny over again. The trusts are as truly a labor saving development as is any device which in a factory does that by machinery which before was done by hand. Even as the new machine or the improved machine displaces the workman, so does the corporation displace the individual in business. Sifted down to the bottom trusts are therefore simply the outcome of competition.

Competition under the capitalist system means the advancing of one's self at the cost of others, the pulling the many down, the elbowing the many aside, in order to benefit the one.

Heretofore it has been most cruel to the workmen whom it forced into a struggle to see who should live and who should starve.

But for the last ten or twenty years the workmen have been by no means the only sufferers. The small employers, the small merchants, are just as much victims of that cruel kind of competition as the wage-workers. The hand of each "business man" of the same branch is against every other, and no foe is more terrible than the one who in running a neck-to-neck race with him every day. The giant factory, the mammoth store are the most implacable foes of the small shop and the small store-keeper. The fierce competition lessens the profit on each article, and that must be compensated for by the production and sale of a greater number of articles; that is the cheaper the goods, the more capital is required.

Precisely, then, for the same reason that the mechanic with his own shop and working on his own account has nearly disappeared in the struggle between hand-work and machine-work, the small employers with their little machinery, their small capital and their scanty stock of goods are driven from the field. The great capitalist naturally triumphs. And to the few remaining in the field their BUSINESS SENSE dictates CO-OPERATION INSTEAD OF COMPETITION. Should the "law" come after them, they will simply give up the little shadow of separate business and rivalry and go into partnership—form a gigantic stock company.

And the evils that accompany the trusts' business activities are many. The end of all business nowadays is to MAKE MONEY. And while production on a large scale allows the adoption of improved and cheaper methods, and while the resulting economy of cost would enable the trust to lower the price of the product to the consumer, none of the trusts does any such thing.

Some of the trusts have done so temporarily. But it is only right to say that the formation of trusts has resulted in HIGHER PRICES than were paid by the consumers before. Building material, for instance, went up 40 and in some cases 100 per cent. by the formation of the trusts—coal has gone up to \$7.10 a ton, although it could be sold at a good profit for HALF THE PRICE charged and living wages be paid to the poor, oppressed miner—and the extortions of the meat trust from the people, as well as from the cattle raisers, have just led to a government investigation, while the workmen of the packing-houses are treated in a way that baffles description.

In short: The economies resulting from improved and cheaper methods of production undoubtedly lessen the cost of the article to the TRUST. But they are under no compulsion to give the benefit of this to their workmen in form of higher wages and shorter hours, or to the consumers through a reduced price. As human nature is constituted, under capitalism they prefer to take the benefits out themselves in the form of huge dividends—which are paid on incredibly "watered" capital. It must be considered a sound conclusion that if trusts multiply and have full swing as they have had during the last two or three years they will raise the prices of commodities even higher than they are now.

Not are these the only evils. The trusts will add to the general political corruption. Whatever a trust wants from legislators, courts, assessors and public prosecutors it will get if money can buy it. It will buy exemption from molestation by political bosses when it is necessary. It will concern itself in elections, whenever the outcome has any bearing on its pockets. It will subside newspapers, bribe voters and spread corruption whenever "dirty" to its selfish interests it needs. The trust has no more moral scruple about systematically committing crime of this kind than have most individual business men, who have taken care of their business in this way before; but also in corruption the trust is as superior to the individual in efficiency and scope as it is in its other business relations.

This system of corruption must break down or society will. But what can be done? The trusts being based upon and a part of the modern machinery of production cannot be fought by capitalist methods and capitalist means. Nor can the trust principle of large capital, concentrated energy, centralized superintendence and superior economy ever be eliminated again from our system of production.

Every honest man and every patriot who can think ought therefore to say to himself the following:

The machinery and all the progress in implements of production today we don't want to destroy and we can't destroy. Civilization does not want to go back to the Middle Ages or be reduced to barbarism.

But as long as these instruments of production—land, machinery, raw materials, railroads, telegraphs, etc.—remain private property, only comparatively few can be sole owners and masters thereof. And as long as such is the case they will naturally use this private ownership for their private advantage. The highest industrial order, which competitive individualism has given us, is that of the capitalist and wage-slave. And a capitalist and wage-slave order of society inevitably ends, and has already ended, in the economic rule of comparatively few absolute masters over the numerous socially subject class.

The wage system was a step in the evolution to freedom, but only a step; and without the trades' unions and labor associations the wage system would lead society into a state that would only be a fall from feudalism. There can be no social freedom nor complete justice until there are no more hirelings in the world; until all become both the employers and the employed of labor, of society.

There is but one deliverance from the rule of the people by capital—and that is the rule of capital by the people. If much of what has been considered private property is to be absorbed in great monopolistic ownership, as seems the inevitable outcome of the competitive struggle, then the people should become the monopolists.

The only hope for the people for either industrial or political freedom lies in their gradually taking possession of the machinery, forces and production of the great industrial monopolies and establishing the co-operative commonwealth. And the people can do no better than make a beginning by expropriating the trust owners, railroad kings and monopolists.

Victor L. Berger.

Any man who has ever worked for a public has never been anxious to change to an individual employer. Some of our ultra "scientific" fellows may sneer at the postoffice department as state Socialism, but as compared to private corporations, its employees get good salaries and are guaranteed a certain security of livelihood for the future during good behavior, that makes their job more valuable still. The workers in our shops and factories would be much better suited if the government owned the business instead of private profit sharks. And if the government owned it, it would be the easiest thing in the world to get wages up, to get shorter hours, and to provide safeguards for the workers not now dreamed of. Competition makes waste, and if the government ran the industries there would be no competition, and so the workers could rightfully demand their share in the saving. Competition in now being eliminated by the trusts getting control, but the saving only goes into the pockets of the capitalists and here and there competing

mills are shut down, ruthlessly throwing thousands out of work. Government ownership is the only sane way of taking business out of the hands of the non-less trusts and getting society started toward actual Socialism. Only the most stupid prejudice and self-injuring obstinacy can keep a factory worker from wanting to see the change begin. And to start it requires only a concerted halloo by the workers! If Tom can get Dick and Harry to vote for the proposition the same as he does, the day is won.

In the ignorant and superstitious past the rulers made the people make public improvements and then themselves claimed the credit and the people believed and bowed low in thankfulness. In Milwaukee recently the politicians built the people a bridge with the people's money, because as officials it was their duty to build it, and now they put a big brass plate on the bridge to immortalize their own names. And the people bow low and wonder what they would have done if these foxy fellows hadn't "given" them such a convenience.

The shooting in New York last week of Paul Leicester Ford, the brilliant writer, by his brother, Malcolm Ford, the athlete, simply adds one more item to the long list of crimes that would be unheard of if the people were today living under Socialism. The loss is society's, for Ford's genius enriched the literature of this country. In spite of the fact that Paul admired his brother, he died at his hand. The unbrotherliness of the world at large under the sway of capitalism, found expression in this particular case, and made a quarrel over money matters end in fratricide. Someone—everyone—in some degree has to pay the penalty of the system of selfishness.

As the term Socialism comprehends any kind of Socialism from "Henry George Socialism" to Social Democracy, including bourgeois socialism, christian socialism, etc., isn't it a little odd that the fellows who are so anxious to sail under the name, Socialist party, should have such a horror of alleged state socialism?

Whatever activity in city life is necessary to the public welfare and convenience should be operated by the public and not by individual owners for the purpose of furnishing profits to investing capitalists. This yielding up of profits is an expensive thing for any city, and it has the power to stop the wrong, if it only makes up its mind.

Light on the Meat Squeeze.

The treasury export tables for March which have been issued by the government give the lie to the little song the beef trust has been singing about the scarcity of cattle being the reason for the meat squeeze. It shows that the meat barons shipped \$2,272,759 worth of fresh beef, \$315,900 worth of salted or cured beef, \$465,284 worth of canned beef, \$1,037,872 worth of fresh and salted pork, \$2,061,933 worth of hams and \$2,585,610 worth of bacon to Europe during that month. This meat was sent to European and other markets and sold, in spite of the extra freight charges, for far less than the American people are charged for the same stuff. A New York paper cabled to London on April 30 and ascertained that American beef was selling on the London market at 14 cents a pound, 10 cents less than was being charged for it in New York on the same day. Of all things, speculating in food is the most reprehensible, yet the men who do not scruple to do it are regarded as eminently respectable citizens by present day capitalistic standards.

Mention the government investigation of the meat trust is in progress. Here is one of the appetizing facts brought out in the testimony:

Thomas O'Sullivan of St. Louis, who owns an abattoir and sells meat chiefly to hotels and restaurants, testified that he handles "concession" meat when he can get it at good prices. He described it as meat that had become stale and is tainted with ammonia, etc., and must be consumed at once after it is exposed to the air. He said that such meat is shipped in by Armour, Swift and others.

"It is in a decayed condition, has whiskers on it, as we call it, and they are rubbed off. They then put a kind of paint on it and send that out in their own wagons and sell it to restaurants and hotels and even to private families as good meat."

Witness testified that to his knowledge several men in St. Louis have been buying cows in East St. Louis which should not be killed, including mump-jawed cattle, with running sores, and declared his belief that government inspectors know about the abuse. He corroborated previous witnesses regarding rebates, fixing of prices by the "Big Four" and other methods of the packers.

William Tamme of St. Louis, formerly city salesman for Swift, testified that 100 firms in St. Louis had been driven out of business by the combine.

Testimony was also brought out to show that the trust fixed prices from week to week.

Within the past two years the toll roads outside of Milwaukee have been practically abolished. They had to give way to modern ideas. Toll roads are privately owned, profit making affairs. Roads maintained by the people at large are, in a sense, Socialistic. The trend of affairs is seen in the fact that, instead of the public roads disappearing before the toll roads, it is the toll roads that are becoming out of date and being forced out of business. All things are moving toward our ideal. The people at large find the Socialistic principle better for all concerned.

Big fortunes have been made in part in the past by profits from toll roads. The late Daniel Wells, Jr., whose millions are now used in building and equipping the gigantic skyscraper, the Wells building, with its potential opportunities for collecting rents, was formerly one of the chief owners of the toll road that passed through Wauwatosa, and a great deal of money was made out of it before the people in their collective might legislated it out of the grasping private hands. The road is as well kept up today as it ever was and is as free as the sunshine. It is just a little object lesson in Socialism. The road is a double blessing, since it is no longer being used to breed millionaires whose capital will oppress and fleece the people.

Socialism and Religion.

The Rev. Wellbes of St. Augustine's Church, Milwaukee, recently preached a sermon in which he made rather slighting references to collectivism. Some of his parishioners, who are Socialists, called some of his statements into question, and he thereupon called in a lecturer named Dr. Kohr to speak to his church on the subject.

That Dr. Kohr didn't know what he was talking about is shown by the following statements made by him. He said:

That the ground idea of Socialism was unbelief in God. WHICH IS NOT SO. That Socialists want to do away with marriage. WHICH IS UNTRUE.

That Socialists want to take the children away from their parents. WHICH IS NOT TRUE.

That Socialism would mean slavery. WHICH IS A FOOLISH CLAIM.

That Socialists say that the industrious and the lazy should have the same rights. WHICH IS ALSO UNTRUE.

That according to Socialistic teachings the murderer of McKinley did no more than his duty. WHICH IS A CRUEL SLANDER ON THE HUMANITY OF THE SOCIALISTS.

Dr. Kohr closed by saying that only countries where the state and the church were in partnership afforded peace and happiness for its people, and that overpopulation could be checked by establishing more convents and allowing no one more than 60 acres of land, and that the government should be run by the Catholic party.

This latter is a matter of religious opinion, which we do not wish to discuss. But as to peace and happiness resulting from a union of church and state, we have the example of Belgium, where the most abject wretchedness on the part of the working class exists, as we will show in next week's paper.

The fact is Socialism is neither religious nor irreligious. If it was irreligious, as some try to make out, there would not today be numbers of ministers and priests openly espousing it. Some of these men even go on the public platform to advocate it and some have written books on Socialism, as, for instance, the Rev. Father McGrady of Kentucky and the Rev. Vail of New Jersey. If the church opposes it, so much the worse for the church, for the workers can only be rescued from wage slavery by the abolition of the capitalist system, and if the church takes the side of the rich it will do so at its own cost in loss of membership.

Is it greed that is to blame for the Southern child-labor scandal? To call it that is to compliment other labor-skinning by contrast. The truth is, it is all one and the same thing. Only at some points the rapacity of capital for its legitimate profits is held somewhat in check. Only evil comes out of the profit system.

The other day a deaf and dumb elevator boy was caught by the flooring and his head cut off. It was in a huge factory in Philadelphia owned by the American Tobacco Company. As a result, all was excitement and some idiot raised the cry of fire. A panic ensued and 1200 men and girls tried to rush down a narrow, crooked stairway at once. Nearly one hundred of these victims of capital's demand for profits were seriously crushed. Eight of them were killed outright. And the press dispatches tell us that 90 per cent. of the operatives were girls ranging in age from 12 years of age. Two of those killed were 12 years of age. One was 13 years. One of those killed, a woman, was unidentified. What's the difference in principle between this sudden light on Northern labor-exploitation and that of the slave pens of the South? It simply means that capital must have its increase. Its demand is universal, whether in the South, in the coal fields or factory districts of the North, or in the knitting works, the Kieckhefer factory or other industrial prisons of our own city. Capital must have its increase!

There used to be a factory in Milwaukee that made a business of taking sherry-worn canned vegetables, soaking off the old faded labels and putting bright new ones in their place so as to make the people think they were buying new crop goods. It may be in operation yet for all we know, for certainly business is no more honest than it used to be, in fact quite the contrary. Such things as the above are winked at even by the victims themselves. They would rather buy "cheap" canned goods, along with other cheats, than incur the frowns of the capitalists by giving the system a body blow at the ballot box.

Compare the life of the man who works in the gas works, breathing impure air, covered with grime, or working all day in darkness feeding the furnace, an employment of the most melancholy, hopeless sort, compare such an existence, we say, with that led by the capitalist who draws his share of the profits. His hands are lily-white, his days are spent in travel, in eating fine dinners, and when he does work it is only to scheme to make more dollars out of the toil of others. Compare the two lives. What principle of justice is there back of it all? It can be stopped and right relations established. Read our national platform and see for yourself.

Social Democratic Herald.

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MILWAUKEE, SATURDAY, MAY 17, 1902.

Notice of Stockholders' Meeting.

To the Stockholders of the Milwaukee Social Democratic Publishing Company:

Please take notice that a special meeting of the stockholders of the Milwaukee Social Democratic Publishing Company will be held at the office of the company, 614 State street, Milwaukee, Wis., on Thursday, the 29th day of May, 1902, at 8 o'clock p. m., for the purpose of adopting by-laws and for the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

Dated at Milwaukee, Wis., this 10th day of May, 1902.

By order of the Board of Directors, DR. THEODOR BURMEISTER, Secretary.

NOW UP TO WISCONSIN SOCIALISTS.

Circular letters and blanks were mailed this week to all the branches in the state by the state executive board of our party, calling special attention to the needs for party work prior to the convention. The work that must be carried on in order to bring our principles to the people in the localities where we have as yet no organization, requires funds and all who have the movement at heart should have no peace of mind until they have contributed their mite.

There is a large amount of latent Socialism in Wisconsin. It is found all over the state, in the shops, on the farms, in the towns and cities. But it needs organizing and organizers must live while at work. Conditions are making Socialists, but they are powerless until brought together in a compact, militant movement.

To be a Socialist is to wish to see others so and to want the movement to gain strength through organization. There should therefore be no dearth of funds with which to begin this most necessary work in the state. If it is properly done and without delay, we can promise a vote for emancipation this fall that will make the old parties' heads swim. You who are reading know it as well as we do.

Therefore, cease to be an onlooker. Take your hands out of your pockets, but bring out what you can spare with them. Make things move from now till the date of the convention.

We have an excellent paper for general propaganda, and if you give it the support you should, wonders can be done with it in this state. But don't help us an outsider; get on the inside. Subscribe to some of the stock, order a bundle each week. Do YOUR share. It is now up to the Wisconsin Social Democrats.

BECOMING A MODERN SATURNALIA.

George William Erskine Russell, son of Lord Russell of England, has agitated the poor sweet things that make up society in London by writing a book in which he charges London society with being on the down grade, addicted to vice, worshipful of money and gambling, and so on. He says:

All signs of chivalrous deference to women have vanished. Their reticence has gone with their deference, and there is apparently no topic on which men and women in society do not feel themselves at liberty to converse.

The epithet "unmentionable" has ceased to have any meaning. The most scandalous vices are discussed with airy familiarity and women chatter with men about anything under the sun.

Money is the all-prevailing topic. The enormous increase of luxury has kindled an insane eagerness to be rich, and all scruples as to the methods of acquiring money are out of date.

The rich man who will not consent to be pillaged by his friends is considered as uninteresting as a pauper.

The marriage-making mother has her private information on the pecuniary prospects of every young dancing attendance on her daughters.

Another evil sign of the times is the break-up of homes. People have more exciting interests than nurseries and schools.

The love of publicity is the most marked characteristic of the times. Every one strives to live in the blaze of the social searchlight.

Old Rome's vices, he says, are now the possession of English society. No one need wonder at it. Living on unearned wealth must corrupt human nature. And who, that has eyes to see, can deny that the same blight is developing in this

country in proportion as the wealth stolen from the workers is piling up in the coffers of the plutocratic families?

FEATHERS AND WOODEN SOLDIERS.

Col. W. Larned of the West Point military academy writes in the International Monthly of "The Modern Soldier," poking fun at the dressing of armies in gold braid and feathers and also paying his pitying respects to the "wooden soldier," the private who is allowed no choice but to obey commands, no matter what they may be. He says:

"Feathers and paint as attributes of the soldier are the stage properties of the centuries behind us, and are becoming as absurd as the gongs and hobbings of Chinese military establishment, for they were, together with the appetite for war, our inheritance from the savage, and while we have not altogether outgrown the latter, we are beginning to appreciate the grotesqueness of war paint and spangles as its lively. War is a sordid, bitter, outrageous, even when unavoidable, and surely the effort to clothe its sinister body in feathers and tinsel, in rainbow hues and extravagant garments, is a grim irony."

Of the wooden soldier he says: "This automaton perversion of man without mind or emotion,—a marching, trigger-pulling and saluting mechanism—has been marched and counter-marched on battlefields for the better part of two centuries; a patient ox led to the slaughter, coaxed and bullied to needless victories and unnecessary defeats, by heroic swells in fine raiment, to serve the miserable intrigues of hereditary rulers of Europe,"—and we may add, the capitalistic politicians in this.

"He was part of a blind herd of cattle in circling clothes driven from one slaughter pen to another at the caprice of cabinets."

Commenting on the above, the editor of The Whim says: "The comic side of militarism has at last struck the soldiers themselves. This is the beginning of the end. If the soldier is at last actually laughing at himself it means the death-knell of his profession."

Speaking of the Belgium affair a cable letter to the New York Tribune says: "The Socialists have a reasonable cause, even if they are adopting questionable means of advocating it through a general suspension of labor." But what other means could they adopt? All fighters fight with the weapons that best serve their purpose. If a government withhold a just ballot from the people that do the work by which the nation is sustained, our capitalists may be glad indeed if they protest with nothing stronger than a concerted cessation from work. No vote, no work, is much milder than a bloody revolution.

Not long since the law reached out a tardy hand and clutched a bunch of boodling aldermen in St. Louis and the disclosures were startling. Now word comes from the same city that the contractors refuse to bid on certain city work. This would seem to be more than a mere coincidence.

"We must never forget that we are not merely a Socialist party, but a Social Democratic party because we have perceived that Socialism and democracy are inseparable."—W. Liebknecht.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

Before Socialism is possible a nation of Democrats must be built up.—Edvard Bernstein.

The next time Mr. Neely wishes to rob Cuba maybe he will know enough to incorporate.—Detroit Free Press.

It is claimed that the steel trust is after the 1-cent popcorn of the country, figuring that they are read by workingmen who can be influenced and controlled through them.

Says the Columbus Record: John D. Rockefeller gave a million dollars this week to the South for education. Oil and gasoline is two cents higher to-day than it was a week ago.

The board of directors of the liberal people's party at Luebeck, Germany, refused to sanction the nomination of Prince Henry for the reichstag which had been advised by some members of the party.

The Chinese minister at Tokio has sent a strongly worded dispatch to Peking, in which he advises his government to prohibit Chinese students from coming to Japan, declaring they would imbibe revolutionary ideas there.

The unions are the grammar schools of Socialism, and within the next ten years every intelligent laborer in the land will join the host of toilers for industrial emancipation; and the church that opposes the mighty movement will sit in sorrow and desolation amidst the ruins of plutocracy.—Father Tom McGrody.

A model rural homestead, serving as an object lesson in landscape gardening for people of moderate means, is a unique enterprise just conceived by Uncle Sam. Six acres of the government reservation at Arlington, across the Potomac, have been reserved for this novel purpose. Upon it will immediately be erected a ten-room frame cottage to cost \$6,000.

Mark Twain contributes to the North American Review an article on "Does the Race of Man Love a Lord?" The article closes with these words: "All the human race loves a lord—that is, it loves to look upon or be noticed by the possessor of power or consciousness; and sometimes animals, born to better things and higher ideals, descend to man's level in this matter. In the Jardin des Plantes I have seen a cat that was so vain of being the personal friend of an elephant that I was ashamed of her."

One of the most complete and simple explanations of Socialism written, is Lawrence Gronlund's "Co-operative Commonwealth." Send 50 cents to this office and get a copy.

Special offer to comrades: As a special premium for fifteen subscribers for one year, we will give a Webster's (new census edition) Dictionary, leather bound and indexed on the margin. Value \$2.00.

SOCIALISM THE ABOLITION MOVEMENT.

All hail to Socialism! You may retard it, you can hasten its coming, but you cannot defeat it, you cannot prevent it. It is coming just as certain as the rivers find their way to the sea. It is not yet a popular institution. Half a century ago the institution of chattel slavery was very popular in the United States. It was doomed to disappear. There were thousands who believed that it was criminal and unjust; that it ought to be overthrown; but they did not have the courage of their convictions; they dared not speak out. There were a few, however, who stood erect. They were agitators in their day, and they were covered with odium. William Lloyd Garrison was one of them. Not a great while ago in Massachusetts I saw a little church where the bell was rung to assemble a mob to attack him when he attempted to make a speech against slavery. Wendell Phillips was another. Elijah Lovejoy was another. In 1837 in Alton, Ill., Elijah Lovejoy published the Alton Observer; a committee of friends called on him and said: "You will have to stop these attacks on slavery, our people believe in it." Mr. Lovejoy said: "I have sworn eternal opposition to slavery, and by the help of God I will not turn back." They called on him again. He said: "I can die at my post, but I cannot desert it." His printing office was attacked and he was mobbed and murdered. The state of Illinois applauded the crime. Sixty years after, the grandchildren of the men who murdered

sacrificed dust. These men were great him erected a monument above his self because they dared to be true to themselves and to their convictions of right and duty. They didn't ask: "Is it popular, can I afford it, does it pay?" They simply asked: "Is it right?" and satisfying themselves that it was right, they stood by it without fear of consequences. Ah, my friends, Socialism will be popular in the next few years. It is spreading rapidly in all directions; every man, woman and child in the land is vitally interested in it. Every magazine, every newspaper bears testimony to the fact that men and women are thinking upon this question as they have never thought before; they realize that the world is trembling on the verge of the greatest organic change in human history. Socialists know that the next ruling class of the world will be the working class. So they are pressing forward step by step until the minority they represent today becomes the majority, and seizes the reins of government and inaugurates the co-operative commonwealth. If you believe in these conquering principles we ask you to join the new crusade and stand side by side with us, and cast your lot with Socialism and your votes with the Social Democratic party and hasten the day of its triumph.

Eugene T. Oels

TO WRING YOUR HEART.

The Bad Fruit of a Bad System.

Chicago, Ill., April 22.—Living in abject poverty, with no apparent chance of improving his condition, and with his wife telling him daily that unless he gave her and his six children better support she would appeal to the law, Jones Butler, colored, a mattress repairer, killed his family and himself with poison mixed in food. The bodies were found late yesterday afternoon, buddled on the only bed in the house.

The dead Jones Butler, aged 49 years, insured for \$140; Lillie Butler, aged 44 years, his wife; George Butler, aged 13 years, insured for \$132; Fred Butler, aged 8 years, insured for \$75; James Butler, aged 11 years, insured for \$143; Kate Butler, aged 6, insured for \$120; Mildred Butler, aged 3, insured for \$75; Infant Butler, aged 2 months. The family lived on the lower floor of a dilapidated frame building, the front part being used as a store house and room for cleaning carpets. The rear consisted of a kitchen and a living room in which were a bed and couch. A stove with coal, a pantry with no food save part of a loaf of bread and partly filled cans of salmon and tomatoes and a little whisky showed the straits in which the family had got. On one of the tables was found a plate covered with a white powder that is supposed to be arsenic, the poison used.

Too Old to Live.

"Pittsburg, April 28.—Weary of a futile search for work, told everywhere that younger men were wanted, Thos. Hoarty, of McKeesport, drank carbolic acid and died. He was 64 and had lost his steel works job because his employer said he was past the useful age limit in that business."

The above clipping tells its own story. What do you think of you, wage-workers? Do you think you will ever be "past the useful age limit"? How do you know that this same story will not answer for you a few years hence? Who has a guarantee that the wheels will not slip a cog some day, and he be turned out because he has "passed the useful age limit"?

Fellow union men, let us study the cause for such inhuman conditions and then apply the only remedy—a class-conscious ballot for government ownership of monopolies. Union men must study this question, and there is no more appropriate time than the present to commence, for the emancipation of the exploited wealth-producers depends largely upon an intelligent ballot of the trade union hosts.—W. Long in Akron, O., People.

Suicide the Only Escape.

Despondent because he was unable to obtain work and support his wife and five children, Wm. Schefer, who lived at 1730 Broadway, Brooklyn, killed himself last night in Central Park by swallowing carbolic acid, says a New York daily paper.

"I have a wife and five children," he said, "but what good am I to them? They are starving as well as I."

EDITORIAL SHEARINGS.

Fifty per cent. of the men who wanted to go to South Africa were labeled "physically unfit." Some of the rejected ones are trades unionists. It serves them right to get slopped in the face like that. The Boers are not their enemies, as never have been. The enemies of labor are the capitalists who caused the war, and brought trouble to the motherland.—Citizen and Country, Canada.

We recommend that the opponents of political action, by trades unionists, study the statement of Mr. Armour of the beef trust. He says, with brutal frankness, that everything has risen in price except labor. What good does a high tariff on meats do labor if everything else rises in price under it except labor?—Akron People.

While the courts imprison striking union men for alleged violation of their injunctions, the railroad companies find no trouble in laying orders of the court on the shelf. A month ago the courts issued an order prohibiting railroads from competing with each other—in other words, cutting rates. Since then, it is said, more than 600 cut rates have been given in the west, regardless of the court's orders. It will be too bad when the presidents of these roads have to go to jail.—Exchange.

If you are receiving this paper without having subscribed for it, we ask you to remember that it has been paid for by a friend.

WINCHEVSKYISMS.

He who first said that poverty was no disgrace must have been an employer of labor on a considerable scale.

A Socialist writer who cannot tolerate an adverse criticism is like intolerant and intolerable.

William Morris was the gift of the Muses to Labor.

The workingman is frequently the slave of production and the victim of consumption at the same time.

The lord chancellor of England is the keeper of the King's conscience. Considering the past record of Albert Edward, the man is not likely to break down under his heavy burden.

You deprive a man of all the bread which he, in the sweat of his brow, has earned for himself and his family. They starve while you overfill your stomach to the point of bursting. When you're through, you find you have no use. You hand them over to the children of the man you robbed. You are a philanthropist and a public benefactor.

"This cobweb of yours," said the cat to the spider, "is no doubt very cunningly woven, but, seeing how frail it is, I should not have thought that anybody would be caught in it."

You must make allowance for the stupidity of the flies," said the spider, eliciting a chuckle of approval from a Wall street man who overheard the conversation.

Ludwig Boerne somewhere says: "Love between a king and liberty is never mutual, for much as a monarch may love liberty, liberty never can love a monarch."

It will be found that this holds good of the relation subsisting between freedom and bosses in general.

With the increased facilities for intercommunication which modern means of locomotion have brought about, the civilized nations are gradually losing their once marked individuality. Thus things are getting somewhat mixed. At one time, however, and that not very long ago, Germany was the brain of Europe, Italy its face, France its heart, Spain its palate, Switzerland its lungs, England its hands, the Scandinavian peninsula its nostrils, Turkey its hump and Russia its legs, nearly always in chains, while Austria, as it still is, its organic disorder.

The Gems of Our Ruling Ladies.

Mrs. John Jacob Astor, "third"—for our American plutocrats now number the possessors of the name and the wealth, imitating the kings of the old countries—well, Mrs. John Jacob Astor III, frequently wore \$750,000 worth of jewels at an ordinary reception, and Mrs. W. K. Vanderbilt fully \$500,000 at a mere garden party, says a writer in Ainslee's Magazine. Pearl necklaces alone worth \$70,000 to \$100,000 are not uncommon, one that cost \$320,000 being occasionally seen, and more than one woman has \$1,000,000 in gems from which to choose.

The following table gives an idea of the value of the jewels owned by comparatively a small number of New York's society women:

Mrs. William Astor.....	\$1,500,000
Mrs. John Jacob Astor.....	1,000,000
Mrs. Cornelius Vanderbilt, Sr.....	1,000,000
Mrs. Wm. K. Vanderbilt, Jr.....	1,000,000
Mrs. H. P. Belmont.....	1,000,000
Mrs. John W. Mackay.....	1,000,000
Mrs. Bradley-Martin.....	800,000
Mrs. Perry Belmont.....	800,000
Mrs. Herman Oelrichs.....	800,000
Mrs. Orme Wilson.....	800,000
Mrs. Ogden Goelet.....	800,000
Mrs. Clarence H. Mackay.....	750,000
Mrs. John P. Morgan.....	750,000
Mrs. Alfred Gwynne Vanderbilt.....	750,000
Mrs. Wm. James Astor.....	750,000
Mrs. William Starr Miller.....	700,000
Mrs. Frederick Vanderbilt.....	650,000
Mrs. George Vanderbilt.....	600,000
Mrs. W. Seward Webb.....	550,000
Mrs. William D. Sloane.....	550,000
Mrs. Eliot F. Shepard.....	500,000
Mrs. Harry Payne Whitney.....	500,000
Mrs. George J. Gould.....	500,000
Mrs. Charles M. Oelrichs.....	500,000
Mrs. Philip Rhineland.....	500,000
Mrs. Charles T. Yerkes.....	500,000
Mrs. John P. Twombly.....	500,000
Mrs. Stuyvesant Fish.....	500,000
Mrs. Ernesto Fari.....	300,000
Mrs. David Hennen Morris.....	300,000
Mrs. Edwin Gould.....	300,000
Mrs. Oliver Harriman, Jr.....	300,000
Mrs. Cornelius Vanderbilt, Jr.....	250,000

Comment is superfluous.

It's a Great System.

"Robert Louis of Toledo, O., has lost his job," says the Chicago Socialist. "Robert used to operate a small drill in a bicycle factory for which he was paid \$1.75 per day. Robert's daughter has found a job. She now operates a small drill in a bicycle factory and is paid \$5 a week for her services. It happens to be the same factory in which her father worked, and the drill in the identical one which he operated. Robert came to Chicago, but finding that other men's daughters were operating drills here also went to labor headquarters and told his story." Great is capitalism!

THE HERALD FORUM.

Comrade Strobel on Transitional Steps to Social Democracy.

Notwithstanding the summary method of speech adopted by certain Socialists in disposing of, forever and a day, the arguments pro and con on the immediate demands in our platform, I am convinced that the last word has not yet been said—will not be said when I've spoken.

The discussion should go on, and those planks which are of no positive value should be dropped.

I believe that the first or public ownership plank will be the means of placing us in an insincere attitude before the nation. We will be called upon to help in many a public ownership contest where the results will be a positive detriment to Socialistic progress and where no explanation of ours can overcome our seeming defection, and where our seeming compliance will load us up with an odious responsibility.

The second plank is an impossibility while the present system lasts. Many of the objects described in the third, fourth and fifth planks have been partially attained in other countries by Socialist or Socialist and radical victories.

If the chains and barriers, thrown around the workers, by their capitalist enemies are yet flexible enough we will probably follow the example of our French comrades and gain a large measure of Socialist relief from the rigors of the new birth: If, on the other hand, executive and courts and military power, the injunctions and black-list and fear of starvation can work their full purpose in their control of this safety valve, we will follow our German comrades in their political course. I fancy we will have very little to say about it.

The worst method that can be adopted is, that of adopting planks that are generally recognized as containing needed changes and when by reason of their popularity they get beyond our leading strings we let them a rap to drive them back. We do not keep faith with the people as a party when we do that.

My idea of what these "immediate" planks should be is perhaps new to many. It rests upon the knowledge that there are difficulties that can be removed in the way of ultimate Socialistic victory.

As these are gradually removed, our cause will grow more rapidly. The measures that will remove these obstacles and enable us to hold every position we capture should be now and until we win the centre of conflict. They are the true transitional steps.

Can you help but wonder sometimes, when you know that all our ideals of the merits of Socialism rest upon the education, the intelligence of the people, whether our civilization may not follow that of past ages, which owe their decay to the same causes which we see around us to-day? Are we not going for the last 30 years toward the usual ending—plutocracy, absolutism and slavery—of the civilizations that have gone before?

Of all the forces opposed to our aims there are two, the one commanded by General Ignorance, the other by General Apathy, that under the clever direction of the capitalist staff do us the most damage. These are ever the forces the enemy mostly relies on and that have helped them time and time again in their hours of sore need.

The last census gives us the figures of those too intellectually debased to understand Socialism—the nation's illiterates.

There were 1,706,000 males of voting age, which means a total illiterate population of over 8,500,000. Of these illiterate voters 1,132,000 live in the Southern states, divided into 316,433 white and 815,567 colored, all males of voting age. Do not think that this will pass away. The trend of industrialism is removing ever more and more children from the school to the factory, and this is not all. Every large city has its school problem and is not meeting it. One year in New York city there were 30,000 children of school age who could not be given room in its schools. This tends again to securing a docile tractable class of workers, and capitalists are careful not to disturb it. Their gifts are for colleges, and they see to it that city money which should go for the grammar schools is put into high and normal schools which prepare for college.

No, no one can say that the average citizen is not interested in the school question, and if by means of the referendum and initiative the schools could be controlled by the people themselves, this whole problem would be wiped out in a generation. There is no question in that case that a national educational law would be passed.

Our movement has much to fear from ignorant violence which can always be fomented by the privileged class among the material our illiterates are composed of.

The other danger I mentioned was general apathy.

At a recent general election, there were in Pennsylvania 145,000 voters who were registered but who did not vote; 105,000 in New York, 85,000 in Massachusetts, 42,000 in Connecticut, and 65,000 in New Jersey, all registered but not voting. This is not a natural state of affairs, not at all. Nor is the ballot a failure, provided there is something on that ballot that works with certainty. The power is there. It can be exercised all right. Its verdict is heeded and obeyed, but there are constitutional barriers to putting realities on the ballot. Constitutions are but for the governments to heed. The people make them for their servants. The people can change them anytime.

Our constitution was made shortly after the French revolution by men representing the embryo aristocracy of our land. They were frightened at the "excesses" of the "Tiers etat."

Let us see what their sentiments were and compare them with our Declaration of Independence.

One speaker, Mr. Dickinson, favored a limited monarchy as one of the best governments in the world. He said one source of stability was the division of the country into distinct states which he regarded as "accidentally lucky." Each state government was a check to popular agitation.

Mr. Sherman said: "The people should have as little to do as may be about the government. They are without information and constantly liable to be misled."

Mr. Gerry: "The evils we experience flow from an excess of democracy."

He did not like the election of a President by the people.

Mr. Randolph observed that the general object was to provide a cure for the evils under which the United States labored; that in tracing these evils to their origin, every man had found it in the turbulence and follies of democracy.

Mr. Masos admitted that we had been too democratic, but was afraid we should incautiously run into the opposite extreme.

Mr. Wilson said experience, particularly in New York and Massachusetts, showed that an election of the first magistrate by the people at large was both a convenient and successful mode.

Mr. Sherman was for the appointment by Congress and for making him absolutely dependent on that body.

On the question of voting for Congressmen, Mr. Sherman said: "All civilized societies would be divided into different sects, factions and interests, as they happened to consist of rich and poor, debtors and creditors, the landed, the manufacturing, the commercial interests, the inhabitants of this district or that district, the followers of this political leader or that political leader, the disciples of this religious sect or that religious sect. In all cases where a majority are united by a common interest or passion, the rights of the minority are in danger."

Mr. Rutledge proposed, that the proportion of suffrage in the first branch should be according to the quotas of contributions. The justice of this rule, he said, could not be contested. Mr. Butler urged the same idea; adding that money was power; and that the states ought to have weight in the government in proportion to their wealth.

And this was actually put into a motion to add to the words "equitable ratio of representatives," the words—"According to quotas of contribution."

These quotations are only a few out of thousands that could be made. Any one can find them in Madison's Journal of the Constitutional Convention. They throw a flood of light upon the results of our political institutions. They prove that the evils are the result of what is anti-democratic; that the cure is more democracy. They explain that the carelessness of the people in the exercise of their franchise grows out of their helplessness.

When the ballot contains a direct command and the power to enforce that command, we have seen the last of the "stay-at-home" vote.

When the ballot is rid of the dummy and deals directly with the laws that govern the conditions of our social and economic life, a healthy state of investigation and discussion will follow in which no minority, however small, will fail to push its views into view of all the people.

The lamentable ignorance of intelligent, educated people regarding Socialism would soon become a thing of the past.

Of course, you will all understand that the representative system is not to be superseded by Direct Legislation. If the lawmakers pass the measures the people wish, no action will be taken. If not, or if legislation hostile to the interests of the people is passed, the referendum may be asked for by say five per cent. of the voters affected in town, county, state or nation.

If new legislation is asked for and not given, then the same percentage of voters may, by petition frame an act, which if not passed by the law-makers, will go before the people at the next election.

The slight change this involves from present methods is surely a mild one, but paves the way to an incomparably brighter future for the agitation of all true social and economic measures.

If this lesson is not learned gradually before the people in their righteous wrath vote in Socialism; if they still are accustomed to vote for men and heed not the importance of keeping a firm grasp upon the enactments and laws, and must then begin this serious lesson in the midst of turmoil and upheaval; if they then make the mistakes they are liable to make, aye, will most certainly make, then they will be led by intriguers and self-seekers even in the Socialist party. Leaders will become important and on the horizon looms the shadow of the "mon on horseback."

It is an extremely bad thing for the Socialist Party that many of its members, especially those who understand the movement best, do not and will not appreciate the fundamental religious and moral characteristics of the American people, which make them a prey to any agency that masquerades under the sacred name of law. They can be sold into slavery under form of law, cheated and robbed under forms of law, and deprived of their natural and constitutional rights by form of law.

But the last word for Direct Legislation has not yet been said even here. In 1876 at the national election, a popular majority of about 300,000, and an electoral college majority of about 30 votes was overridden by a court decision after a most bitter political contest. American people then decided, as they would in a like event now, that they were law abiding people and they would wait on the forms of law for future justice. Did it ever come? The class rule, then in its infancy, promoted by this atrocious crime, was strengthened so that it finally captured both parties.

Up in Washington a Socialist form of government was this year deprived of a victory gained at the polls, by a capitalist judge, and in Connecticut a workers' government passing acts by a minority of one was upset by another judge.

Platforms of International Socialism. III.

Joint Manifesto of English Socialists.

MANIFESTO OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE OF SOCIALIST BODIES

There is a growing feeling at the present time that, in view of the increasing number of Socialists in Great Britain, an effort should be made to show that whatever differences may have arisen between them in the past, all who can fairly be called Socialists are agreed in their main principles of thought and action.

This is the more hopeful, since, though much has been made of those differences by the opponents of Socialism, it is safe to say that they have been rather of less than more importance than similar differences of the early days of great movements, which have afterwards become united and irresistible. There has, indeed, been constant co-operation in propaganda work between the individual members of different organizations, and occasional co-operation between the organizations in political emergencies; but more than this is now needed if we are to make a serious advance in the work of gathering together and directing the great body of thought and feeling which is setting towards Socialism.

Meanwhile, the necessity for the development of a new social order is getting more obvious to all thinking people, and without the growing aspirations towards Socialism the outlook of modern civilization would be hopeless.

The vigorous propaganda which has been carried on for the last twelve years, and the complete change in the attitude of the working classes and the public generally towards Socialism, could not but attract the notice, and, perhaps, excite the anxiety, of the politicians of the possessing classes; but they have shown hitherto that they have lacked both the will and the power to do anything effective towards meeting the evils engendered by our present system. In spite of factory acts, sanitary legislation and royal commissions, the condition of the working people is, relatively to the increased wealth of the country, worse than it was twenty years ago. Children are still growing up among such surroundings, and so insufficiently nourished, that health and strength are thereby rendered possible, dangerous and unwholesome, inducing hideous diseases on those who work at them, are still carried on by the capitalists with impunity; overcrowding, accompanied by increasing rents, is the rule rather than the exception in all our great cities.

At the same time, the great and growing depression in the most vital of industries, agriculture, tends to drive the people more and more from the country into the towns, while it so narrows the field from which healthy and vigorous industrial recruits have been drawn in the past, that the physical deterioration of our city population is more severely felt than ever before.

Moreover, the question of the unemployed is more pressing today than at any recent period. The incapacity of the capitalist class to handle the machine of production without injury to the community has been demonstrated afresh by the crisis of 1890, itself following upon a very short period of inflation; since which time every department of trade and industry has suffered from lack of initiative, and want of confidence and ability among the producers. As a result, the numbers of the unemployed have increased rapidly; the prospect of any improvement is still remote; and the stereotyped official assurance that there is no exceptional distress only emphasizes the fact that it is prosperity, not distress, which is exceptional. Indeed, the only arrangement possible under the present system could only lessen the mass of those without occupation, and bring them down to a number manageable by the employers. Meanwhile, small improvements, made in deference to the ill-formulated demands of the workers, though for a time they seem almost a social revolution, are almost of their own resources and of their capacity for enjoyment, will not really raise the condition of the whole people.

In short, the capitalist system, by which we mean the established plan of farming out our national industries in private property lots, and trusting to the greed of the owners, and the competition between them, to ensure their productivity, is the only arrangement possible in a society not organized enough to administer its own industry as a national concern. This shiftless method has, indeed, kept the shop open, so to speak, but at a frightful cost in human degradation, as might have been expected from its basis. All the investigations undertaken with a view to converting Socialists of exaggeration and one-sidedness in their attacks upon it, have shown that the facts are worse than any Socialist dared to surmise, and that half a century of ameliorative regulation by means of factory legislation and the like has failed to weaken the force of former exposures of capitalism.

Among recent anti-socialist statisticians, Mr. Robert Giffin has been led by his own counter-blast to Socialism into the exclamation, "That no one can contemplate the present condition of the masses without desiring something like a revolution for the better." And the facts as to London poverty, laid bare by Mr. Charles Booth, dispose of the possibility of leaving things as they are; although Mr. Booth, who is a conservative in politics, undertook his great inquiry expressly to confute what he then thought to be Socialist overstatements. The horrible revelations concerning English home life, made by the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, have effectually dispelled the illusion that the cruelty and selfishness of the factory and mine have not infected the household, or that society can safely abandon its children to irresponsible private ownership, any more than its land and capital.

Under these circumstances of a continued degradation of the really useful part of the population—a consequence as inherent in the present system of ownership as it was in the system of chattel slavery—the need for a new social order is obvious. Some constructive social theory is asked for, and none is offered except the feudal or Tory theory, which is incompatible with democracy; the Manchester or Whig theory, which is broken down in practice and the Socialist theory. It is, therefore, opportune to remind the public once more of what Socialism means to those who are working for the transformation of our present un-socialist state into a collectivist republic, and who are entirely free from the illusion that the amelioration or "moralization" of the conditions of capitalist private property, can do away with the necessity for abolishing it. Even those readjustments of industry and administration which are Socialist in form will not be permanently useful, unless the whole state is merged into an organized commonwealth. Mu-

nicipalization, for instance, can only be accepted as Socialism on the condition of its forming a part of national, and, at last, of international Socialism, in which the workers of all nations, while adopting within the borders of their own countries those methods which are rendered necessary by their historic development, confederate upon a common basis of the collective ownership of the great means and instruments of the creation and distribution of wealth, and thus break down national animosities by the solidarity of human interest through-out the civilized world.

On this point all Socialists agree. Our aim, one and all, is to obtain for the whole community complete ownership and control of the means of transport, the means of manufacture, the mines, and the land. Thus we look to put an end forever to the wage-system, to sweep away all distinctions of class, and eventually to establish national and international communism on a sound basis.

To this end it is imperative on all members of the Socialist party to gather together their forces in order to formulate a definite policy, and force on its general acceptance.

But here we must repudiate both the doctrines and tactics of anarchism. As Socialists we believe that those doctrines and the tactics necessarily resulting from them, though advocated as revolutionary by men who are honest and single-minded, are really reactionary both in theory and practice, and tend to check the advance of our cause. Indeed, so far from hampering the freedom of the individual, as anarchists hold it will, Socialism will foster that full freedom which anarchism would inevitably destroy.

As to the means for the attainment of our end, in the first place we Socialists look for success to the increasing and energetic promulgation of our views amongst the whole people, and next, to the capture and transformation of the great social machinery. In any case the people have increasingly at hand the power of dominating and controlling the whole political, and through the political, the social forces of the empire.

The first step towards transformation and reorganization must necessarily be in the direction of the limitation of class robbery, and the consequent raising of the standard of life for the individual. In this direction certain measures have been brought within the scope of practical politics; and we name them as having been urged and supported originally and chiefly by Socialists, and advocated by them, still, not, as above said, as solutions of social wrongs, but as tending to lessen the evils of the existing regime; so that individuals of the useful classes, having more leisure and less anxiety, may be able to turn their attention to the only real remedy for their position of inferiority—to wit, the supplanting of the present state by a society of equality of condition. When this great change is completely carried out, the genuine liberty of all will be secured by the free play of social forces, with much less coercive interference than the present system entails.

The following are some of the measures spoken of above:

An Eight-Hour Law.
Prohibition of Child Labor for Wages.
Free Maintenance of All Necessaries for Children.
Equal Payment of Men and Women for Equal Work.

An Adequate Minimum Wage for All Adults Employed in the Government and Municipal Services, or in any Monopolies, such as Railways, Enjoying State Privileges.
Suppression of All Sub-contracting and Sweating.
Universal Suffrage for all Adults, Men and Women Alike.
Public Payment for All Public Service.

The inevitable economic development points to the direct absorption by the state, as an organized democracy, of monopolies which have been granted to, or constituted by, companies, and their immediate conversion into public services. But the railway system is, of all the monopolies, that which could be most easily and conveniently so converted. It is certain that no attempt to reorganize industry on the land can be successful so long as the railways are in private hands, and excessive rates of carriage are charged. Recent events have hastened on the Socialist solution of this particular question, and the disinclination of boards of directors to adopt improvements which would cheapen freight, prove that in this, as in other cases, English capitalists, far from being enlightened by competition, are blinded by it even to their own interests.

In other directions, the growth of combination, as with banks, shipping companies, and huge limited liability concerns, organized both for production and distribution, show that the time is ripe for Socialist organization. The economic development in this direction is already so far advanced that the socialization of production and distribution on the economic side of things can easily and at once begin, when the people have made up their minds to overthrow privilege and monopoly. In order to effect the change from capitalism to co-operation, from unconscious revolt to conscious reorganization, it is necessary that we Socialists should constitute ourselves into a distinct political party with definite aims, marching steadily along our own highway, without reference to the convenience of political factions.

We have thus stated the main principles and the broad strategy on which, as we believe, all Socialists may combine to act with vigor. The opportunity for deliberate and determined action is now always with us, and local autonomy on all local matters will still leave the fullest outlet for national and international Socialism. We, therefore, confidently appeal to all Socialists to sink their individual crochets in a business-like endeavor to realize in our own day that complete communization of industry for which the economic forces are ready, and the minds of the people are almost prepared.

Comes Out for Socialism.

The labor problem is a profoundly religious and Christian propaganda, whose soever and whatsoever its leaders may be, and the powers that are against it are profoundly irreligious and pagan, whose soever and whatsoever their advocates are. What is the pagan concept of government and what is the Christian concept of government? The pagan concept of government is Authority, and that alone justifies the unconscionable rights, the inequalities, the barbarities, and the miseries that civilization has for 2000 years been striving to break down.

The Christian concept of government is Right, and that asserts the value of the individual soul, the fatherhood of God, the brotherhood of men, and all that these imply in uniting mankind into a family. Is there anything in the spirit of the programme of the Labor party which is contrary to this Christian concept of government? Nothing whatever. The Labor programme is a religious propaganda, and above all, a Christian propaganda. The Labor party may feel sure that they are holding up the Christian banner, and are waging, whatever the world or the church may say, a religious war. Let the churches call it Socialism if they like; it is Christianity as well.

The Glass Struggle.

TO ORGANIZED LABOR.

The laboring men of Milwaukee should not have to be told that the Quin ball has been placed on the unfair list by the Trades Union Council of Quin's action when the binders and rulers in his blindery went on strike. The demands of the bookbinders were reasonable, which made the case all the worse. The Western League is providing good ball and there is no excuse for any man seen sneaking into the Quin ball grounds.

THE COAL STRIKE BEGINS.

Philadelphia, Pa., May 12.—Mine workers throughout the entire anthracite coal region of Pennsylvania to the number of over 145,000, formally began their struggle today for increased wages and shorter hours. Never in the history of hard coal mining has a tie-up been so complete, not one of the 357 collieries in the territory being in operation. There is every indication for the belief that the suspension which was to cover only the first three days of this week, will be made permanent by the miners' general convention, which will meet at Hazleton on Wednesday.

Absolute quiet prevailed everywhere today. In pursuance of the request of the local executive boards, which met jointly at Scranton last week, all the local unions throughout the regions met during the day and evening and elected delegates to the Hazleton convention. It is significant that in every instance where the vote of a "local" became public property the ballot showed a decided majority for a permanent strike unless the operators grant concessions.

Predictions are made that if it is decided on Wednesday to continue the strike, the struggle will be longer and more bitter than was that of 1900, which lasted six weeks.

The coal companies in various parts of the regions have already made preparations for a siege. Coal train crews, telegraph operators, switchmen, carpenters, machinists and other employees numbering several thousand not identified with the mine workers' union have been laid off until further notice.

The Latest from Russia.

London, May 8.—A St. Petersburg correspondent says: "Comparative order has been restored in the governments of Poltava and Kharkoff, but the peasants are only outwardly quiescent, believing that the grant of a division of the lands of noblemen will be effected during the coming autumn, leaving the hardy land owners only twenty acres and a yoke of oxen each."

"Authentic particulars of the disorders prevailing during the last three weeks show they were largely due to extreme suffering from famine. Violence is reported from twelve to fifteen villages, while three estates have been devastated in the Kharkoff government and forty-three in the Poltava government. To add to this general consternation 200 Cossacks arrived at Poltava after the regular military forces had restored order. The troops fired on the people in two or three cases, and in one instance the peasants attacked the troops with stones, whereupon the latter fired, killing several persons and wounding a score, among whom were women and children."

"An example of the extent to which the ranks of the famine-stricken villagers are swollen by the return of unemployed factory workers it is pointed out that one iron works, which heretofore employed 12,000 to 20,000 people is now employing only 5,000 for three days a week."

Federated Trades Council.

Meeting of May 7, with Delegate Fred Brockhausen in the chair. Delegate James Sheehan, vice chairman, presided. Officers present. Minutes approved. Six new unions were taken into affiliation and delegates obligated. The executive board reported that at a meeting on Friday, May 2, it was learned that the following delegates had been present at a meeting of the organizers of a rival central body: Paul Huebner, A. D. Schwander, Nels Anderson, Harry Watkins, L. J. Koerli, Albert S. Himmelhoch, and Fred Van Karpenstein. After discussion in which the first three showed they were not interested, it was decided to expel the following:

Fred Van Karpenstein of Typographical No. 23.
Harry Watkins of the Shoemakers.
L. J. Koerli of Federal Labor Union.
Albert S. Himmelhoch of Federal Labor Union.

The executive unions were ordered notified to send new delegates. The business agent reported a conference with Pabst and Schlitz breweries and both said they would not enter into an agreement with the Builders Trades' Council for the ensuing year with the Federated Trades Council. He read the proposed new agreement and it was decided to refer the matter to a meeting of the unions interested to be held on Sunday. The organizing committee reported visiting twelve unions with regard to helping formulate a brewery contract. Also reported trying to organize the crane men, who were claimed by the electrical workers. On motion the claim was concurred in.

Legislative committee report adopted and committee ordered to take up school book question. The special committee on music reported the Musicians' Union had not accepted proposition made to them, as some bands had been hired separately. Unions were advised to hire their own bands. Adopted. Labor Day committee reported that Pabst park wanted a new game on all games which amounted to about \$300. Also submitted a proposition to rent Coney Island. Given further time. The business agent reported that Seamus's Union had refused to sail with the marine cooks and latter had protested to A. F. of L. Attention called to new law which prohibited business agent Anderson from permission to write for newspapers in advancement of union interests. Also ordered to notify German Herald that it was printing unfair labor news and to ask editors to change their attitude. Unfinished business. Resolution of bachelors and

Let us adhere to this claim, no matter what opposition we meet with. Whatever they call us—Democrats, Socialists, even Anarchists, if they please—let us continue to claim the Gospel for our charter and the teachings of Christ as the basis of our social message.—Hall Caine.

Subscribers who are not receiving the paper regularly will please notify us. We will then try to ascertain the cause. Those removing from one location to another should also let us know, so that their correct address may be on the mailing list.

News of the Labor Movement Throughout the World.

waiters laid on table. Secretary ordered to get terms for Father McGrady for a Labor Day address. Receipts for evening, \$55.11. Expenditures, \$113.05.
EMIL BROADIE, Recording Secy.

GENERAL NOTES.

A lodge of 300 farm hands was organized at Newburg, Ind., recently. John Dean, the organizer, of the American Federation of Labor, says every county in Southern Indiana will be organized before fall.

In Budapest, on April 4th, the unemployed voted to send the minister of commerce a petition asking that the public works be started; if it is not granted about 10,000 of the unemployed intend to emigrate.

Carey's child labor bill was defeated in the Massachusetts Legislature. The leading Republican and Democratic politicians were, of course, against raising the age limit from 14 to 16 years.

May 17 has been set aside by the United Mine Workers of America as a day for the discussion of the Federal Injunction and its effect upon Organized Labor.

The office force of the Patten Paper Company at Appleton, Wis., is now at work in the mill endeavoring to fill orders. In the last week several expert machine tenders have joined the union and quit, and bookkeepers and clerks were asked to don overalls and go to work in the mill. The force is greatly crippled by the strike and but four expert papermakers are on the pay roll.

The old age pension bill, introduced by John Burns, the famous English labor leader and Socialist, provides government pensions for workers above the age of 65. The amount of pension to be paid to men and women provides a sum not less than \$125 nor more than \$175 per week, provided they have not an income from any source of more than \$250 per week. The bill also provides certain requirements in the moral standard of the workers.

One hundred Southern cotton mill owners representing 700,000 spindles met last week in Charlotte, N. C., and decided to enter the sixty million dollar cotton yarn trust that is now in process of formation. The decision was unanimous.

The trade unionists of the South are taking up the child labor question in earnest. They are making bitter attacks through the newspapers and from the rostrum upon the heartless corporations who, upon one hypocritical pretext or another, succeed in robbing the cradle. Delegates who attended the convention of the Amalgamated Association at Wheeling, reported that the union considers the steel mills at Milwaukee as now hopelessly nonunion. The Milwaukee workers are still referred to as hooligans.

Business throughout the mining region of Pennsylvania is at a practical standstill, awaiting the action of the miners. If a strike is ordered, more than 350 collieries will be involved and 145,000 employees will be thrown out of employment. More than 30,000 railroad men and others would immediately feel the effect of the strike. It would also mean the cutting off of the country's supply of anthracite coal, more than 5,000,000 tons per month. The executive committee of the firemen's union announced that the firemen would act in harmony with the mine workers, and if a strike was declared every fireman in the region would stop work. This would allow the mines to flood and be extremely disastrous to the companies.

Standard Socialist Literature.

LIBRARY VOLUMES.

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THE TWO PATHS.

In the April Century Magazine, Dr. S. Weir Mitchell, in the course of a contribution called "A Little Story," gives this pathetic incident of modern industrial civilization:

A pale young man sat down on a bench in the park behind the reservoir on Forty-second street. He put down a torn bag of tools under the bench. A small, red-faced man came behind him. He stooped to steal the bag. The pale man turned, and said in a slow, tired way: "Drop that. It ain't worth stealing."

The ruddy man said: "Not if you're lookin'." The pale man set the bag at his feet, and said: "It's poor business you're in."

"You don't look as if yours was any better." He sat down. "What's your callin'?"

"I'm an iron worker; bridge work."

"Don't look strong enough."

"That's so. I'm just out of Bellevue hospital; got hurt three months ago."

"I'm just out of hospital, too," he grinned.

"What hospital?"

"Sing Sing."

"What? Jail?"

"Yes; not bad in winter, either. There's a society helps a fellow after you quit that hospital. Gives you good clothes, too."

"Clothes? Is that so?"

"Gets you work."

"Work—good God! I wish they'd get me some."

"You ain't bad enough. Go and grab somethin'. Get a short sentence; first crime. Come out, and get looked after by nice ladies."

"My God!"

"Didn't they do nothing for you when you got out of that hospital?"

"No! Why the devil should they? I'm only an honest mechanic. Are you goin'?"

He felt his loneliness.

"Yes; I've got to go after that job. I'll give me time to look about me. Gosh! but you look had! Good-bye."

The ruddy man rose, looked back, jingled the few coins in his pocket, hesitated, and walked away whistling.

The pale man sat down on the bench, staring down at the ragged bag of tools at his feet.

Send us the names of people who may be interested in Social Democracy, that we may send them some sample copies.

Branch Meetings.

FIRST WARD BRANCH MEETS EVERY first and third Monday in each month at 826 North Water street. Chris. West, Secy.

SECOND WARD BRANCH meets every third Friday of the month, corner Fourth and Chestnut streets. Jacob Hunger, Secretary.

THIRD WARD BRANCH MEETS ON the second Thursday evening of the month at 614 State street.

FIFTH WARD BRANCH meets every first and third Thursday of the month at southeast corner Washington and Greenbush streets.

EIGHTH WARD BRANCH meets every first and third Friday at 375 First avenue.

NINTH WARD BRANCH meets every first and third Thursday of the month at the Germania hall, corner Fourth and Walnut streets. Henry Bruhn, 2021 Galena street, Secretary.

TENTH WARD BRANCH meets on the first and third Friday of the month at Bahn Frei Turner hall, Twelfth and North avenue. Ed. Grundmann, Secy. 1729 Lloyd street.

ELEVENTH WARD BRANCH meets on the first and third Friday of the month at the Germania hall, corner Orchard street and Ninth avenue, every fourth Friday in the month.

TWELFTH WARD BRANCH meets first and third Thursday at 807 King William avenue. Geo. Lehman, Secretary, 204 Austin street.

THIRTEENTH WARD BRANCH MEETS every second and fourth Wednesday of the month at 524 Clark street. Maria Olson, 1019 Fourth street, Secretary.

FIFTEENTH WARD BRANCH meets every first and third Tuesday by August Bressler's hall, corner Twentieth and Chestnut streets. Dr. C. Brockhausen, Secretary, 648 Wisconsin street.

NINETEENTH WARD BRANCH MEETS every second and fourth Wednesday in the month at St. Mary's hall, corner Seventh and Vilas streets. Tania Rater, Secretary, 558 Twenty-ninth street.

TWENTIETH WARD BRANCH meets every first and third Thursday of the month in Falkmann's hall, corner Twenty-first and Center streets.

TWENTY-FIRST WARD BRANCH meets at Zehetner's hall, 1110 Tenth street, every second and fourth Tuesday in the month.

TWENTY-SECOND WARD BRANCH (No. 4) meets every first and third Friday of each month at Mueller's hall, corner Twenty-third and Brown streets. George Moschel, Secretary, 891 Twenty-sixth street.

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE—Leon Grundmann, Room 427, Empire Bldg., St. Louis, Mo.

STATE EXECUTIVE BOARD—State Secretary, E. H. Thomas, 914 State street, Milwaukee, Wis.

THE CITY CENTRAL COMMITTEE meets every first and third Monday evening of the month at Kalsburg hall, 205 Fourth street. Eugene H. Broome, Secretary; John Dueder, Treasurer, 701 Wisconsin street.

FEDERATED TRADES COUNCIL.

John Reichert, Corresponding Secy
Emil Brodie, Recording Secy
Nels Anderson, Business Agent
Gus. Esche, Treasurer

Meetings are held on the first and third Wednesday in each month at Kalsburg hall, 205 Fourth street.

Metal Trades Section meets first and third Monday.

Label Section meets every second and third Wednesday.

Printing Trades Section meets second and fourth Thursday.

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SOCIALISTIC GLEANINGS.

The Home Field.

The Socialists elected the mayor at Cameron, Col.

A state charter has been granted to the comrades of Montana.

A city councilman was elected by the Socialists in Plattsmouth, Neb.

The New York state convention will be held in New York city July 4.

The Sozialistisches Frauen club will hold a May ball at Born's hall, Sheboygan.

Twelve offices were won by the Socialist party in Standish township, Arenac county, Mich.

At Port Arthur, Texas, the Socialists elected the city clerk and have two members in the council.

Comrade R. H. Maynard has opened a Socialist department in the Colorado Chronicle of Denver.

Branch 9, Milwaukee, will give a May ball Saturday, May 17, at Meixner's hall, Twenty-seventh and Villet streets.

The Sioux Falls, S. D., election resulted in a Socialist vote of 618, the Republicans carrying the city with 1,247 votes.

In Dallas, Texas, the Socialists polled 250 votes in 1900; this spring, 2,465. The Democrats received 3,583 and the other parties practically nothing.

The Socialist Party in St. Paul, Minn., was denied a place on the official ballot. Comrades were compelled to use posters in order to vote.

Comrade Eugene V. Debs will shortly start on a lecture tour of the extreme Northwest, speaking in Washington, Montana, Oregon and British Columbia.

St. Louis Socialists nominated Comrade L. E. Hildebrand of the Boot and Shoe Workers, for sheriff, and a full ticket for local and congressional officers.

Comrade Ernest Burns, secretary of the British Columbia Socialist party, delivered a lecture last week at Vancouver on "The World's Need—A New Conscience."

The Eleventh ward branch, Milwaukee, will hold a basket picnic Sunday, June 8th, at Daxler's grove. There will be a tug-of-war between ten members of the branch and any ten from other branches.

The usual fall entertainment in Milwaukee this year will be held at the North side turn hall on the second Sunday in October. Comrades Thomas J. Morgan and A. S. Edwards of Chicago will speak.

Anderson, Ind.—We cast a Socialistic vote of 150 in the city election of May 6. It was the first Socialist ticket ever in the field here and we were only organized six months. Fraternally, F. J. MACOMBER, Secy.

The new Social Turnverein of Sheboygan, made up entirely of Social Democrats, now has a membership of forty-seven. Comrade Robert Sallie, editor of the Sheboygan Volksblatt, is the first speaker.

Donations to National Propaganda Fund received as follows: Amount reported to May 3, \$321.98; Cleveland Citizen, Cleveland, Ohio, \$5.25; Branch No. 1, Holoken, N. J., \$2.00; California State Committee, \$24.45; total to May 10, \$352.68.

Comrade E. B. Ford, of the "Referendum" of Faribault, Minn., has been sentenced to ninety days in jail or pay a fine of \$100 and costs for writing up the methods of a local capitalist tool. He will go to jail and edit his paper at long range.

At Terre Haute, Ind., Comrade S. M. Reynolds received 553 votes for mayor, an increase of 60 per cent. over the vote for Debs in 1900, when the vote was 331. No other party made a gain. At Brazil, Ind., Comrade Fred. Buttesman received 100 votes, a large gain.

In Battle Creek, Mich., the Socialists are conducting a novel contest. They offer five prizes of \$5 to the scholars in five grades of the public schools or business colleges who write the best essays on Socialism. The prizes will be distributed at a big mass meeting, May 15. The youngsters are reading up.

The campaign in Toronto is getting brisk. The papers are freely quoting Margaret Haile's speeches. Wilshire is defying everything in sight and setting the conservative Canucks speechless with amazement. One of the busiest men in the campaign there is Comrade James Simpson, a preacher, who is a parliamentary candidate from East Toronto. His Sunday sermons all bear on Socialism.

Sheboygan Volksblatt began on its eighth year with the issue of May 10 and installed a new press. It was started as a Socialist labor paper by a handful of poor Socialists who almost went without bread to keep it going. They set their own type and for their first issue had to go begging from print shop to print shop before they found one that was not too bigoted to do their presswork. Now the business men come to the paper.

Across the Herring Pond.

A gratifying growth of Socialism in the rural districts of Germany is reported.

Another municipal councilor—the fifth—has been elected by the Socialists at Koenigsberg, Germany.

News comes from France that Miller and failed of election to the chamber of deputies, on the second ballot.

The Social Democratic vote in Karlsruhe was increased from 2,500 fusion votes in 1898 to 3,299 straight party votes this year.

The German police cut away some of the more revolutionary sentiments on the ribbons attached to wreaths placed on the graves of the victims of 1848.

A Socialist has been elected from Nuremberg to the Landtag (Parliament) of Bavaria. For several weeks past many Socialists have been elected to municipal offices in Germany.

"The Industrial Freedom League" is the name of a new organization formed by British capitalists to prevent the growth of Socialism. It is proposed to induce workmen to join it.

The Milanese, Italy, Socialist party has just obtained control of a Republic.

What the collectivists are doing throughout the world.

can daily paper called Il Tempi (The Times) thus making a total of two daily Socialist papers in Italy.

The eighth congress of the Socialists of Holland was held recently at Groningen, opening with a speech by Troelstra on the triumph of labor. He was appointed editor of the party paper, Het Volk.

The "unemployed census," taken by Berlin Social Democrats, showed 48,351 men idle or only partly employed in Berlin, 11,287 unemployed women, and 8,871 idle men and 1,622 idle women in the suburbs, a total of 70,131.

Russia is being flooded with revolutionary agitation leaflets. There are signs of mutiny in the army, the troops refuse to shoot the people, and it is claimed that a conspiracy of high officers has been discovered. Even in Siberia there is Socialistic activity.

The Socialist members of the German reichstag say they will refuse to accept payment for their services. A bill has been introduced to pay a salary of 2,400 marks per year. If it becomes a law, the Socialists will turn their salaries over to the party's propaganda fund.

The Social Democratic Federation convention at Blackburn, England, declared against a dual Socialistic trade union organization by a vote of 71 to 10. This will draw a groan from the dwindling American S. L. P. which still maintains its Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance.

In the convention of the Socialist party of Saxony, held in Meissen, on April 2, Comrade Riemann-Chemnitz spoke on Socialist municipal politics. He said that according to the latest investigations there are now 741 Socialist municipal officers in Saxony, of whom 172 are house-owners.

In Copenhagen, Denmark, the Socialists and Liberals formed a combination and nearly wiped out the Conservatives, the former receiving an average of 13,000 votes against 7,000 for the latter. The council of the capital city of Denmark now stands: Liberals, 21; Socialists, 20; Conservatives, 1.

Walter Crane, of London, painted a magnificent banner for the Electrical Trades Union. The subject of the chief picture on the banner is "Labour and Light," and the artist has put his whole soul into the work. The banner was carried in the procession in the grounds of the Alexandra Palace on May day, and the ceremony of unfurling it took place in the palace shortly before the procession started. It was one of the most interesting events of the day.

CIRCUIT COURT, MILWAUKEE COUNTY—Gustav Arendt, plaintiff, vs. Mary Arendt, defendant.

The State of Wisconsin, to the said defendant: You are hereby summoned to appear within twenty days after service of this summons, exclusive of the day of service, and defend the above entitled action in the court aforesaid; and in case of your failure to do so, judgment will be rendered against you according to the demand of the complaint, which is now on file with the clerk of the circuit court of Milwaukee county.

DR. THEODORE BURMEISTER, Plaintiff's Attorney.

P. O. address, 404 Chestnut street, Milwaukee, Milwaukee Co., Wis.

STATE OF WISCONSIN—MILWAUKEE COUNTY, County Court—in Probate.

In the matter of the estate of Louis Weyrich, deceased.

Letters testamentary on the estate of Louis Weyrich, late of the city of Milwaukee, in said county of Milwaukee, deceased, having been duly granted to Phillip J. Schlosser, by this court.

It is ordered, that the time from the date hereof until and including the first Tuesday of November, A. D. 1902, be and the same is hereby fixed as the time within which all creditors of the said Louis Weyrich, deceased, shall present their claims for examination and allowance.

It is further ordered, that all claims and demands of all persons against the said Louis Weyrich, deceased, will be examined and adjusted before this court, at its court room, in the court house, in the city of Milwaukee, in said county, at the regular term thereof appointed to be held on the first Tuesday of January, 1903, and all creditors are hereby notified thereof.

It is further ordered, that notice of the time and place at which said claims and demands will be examined and adjusted as aforesaid, and of all the time above limited for said creditors to present their claims and demands, be given by publishing a copy of this order and notice, for four consecutive weeks, once in each week, in the "Social Democratic Herald," a newspaper published in the county of Milwaukee, the first publication to be within fifteen days from the date hereof.

Dated this 23rd day of April, 1902.

By the Court, PAUL D. CARPENTER, County Judge.

RICHARD ELSNER, Attorney at Estate.

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Wanted, a number of bright young boys, used to selling papers on the streets, to handle the Social Democratic Herald Saturday mornings and afternoons. No charge for the papers to the boys; all the money they take in is profit to them.

The National Platform.

The Socialist party of America, in national convention assembled, reaffirms its adherence to the principle of International Socialism, and declares its aim to be the organization of the working class, and those in sympathy with it, into a political party, with the object of conquering the powers of government and using them for the purpose of transforming the present system of private ownership of the means of production and distribution into collective ownership by the entire people.

Formerly the tools of production were simple and owned by the individual worker. Today the machine, which is but an improved and more developed tool of production, is owned by the capitalists and not by the workers. This ownership enables the capitalists to control the product and keep the workers dependent upon them.

Private ownership of the means of production and distribution is responsible for the ever-increasing uncertainty of the livelihood and the poverty and misery of the workers, and it divides society into two hostile classes—the capitalists and wage-workers. The once powerful middle class is rapidly disappearing in the mill of competition. The struggle is now between the capitalist class and the working class. The possession of the means of production gives to the capitalists the control of the government, the press, the pulpit and the schools, and enables them to reduce the working men to a state of intellectual, physical and social inferiority, political subservience and virtual slavery.

The economic interests of the capitalist class dominate our entire social system; the lives of the working class are recklessly sacrificed for profit, without regard to the human element. The destruction of whole races is sanctioned in order that the capitalists may extend their commercial dominion abroad and enhance their supremacy at home.

But the same economic causes which developed capitalism are leading to Socialism, which will abolish both the capitalist class and the class of wage workers. And the active force in bringing about this new and higher order of society is the working class. All other classes, despite their apparent or actual conflicts, are alike interested in the upholding of the system of private ownership of the instruments of wealth production. The Democratic, Republican, the bourgeois public ownership parties, and all other parties which do not stand for the complete overthrow of the capitalist system of production, are alike political representatives of the capitalist class.

The workers can most effectively act as a class in their struggle against the collective powers of capitalism, by constituting themselves into a political party, distinct from and opposed to all parties formed by the propertied classes.

While we declare that the development of economic conditions tends to the overthrow of the capitalist system, we recognize that the time and manner of the transition of Socialism also depend upon the stage of development reached by the proletariat. We, therefore, consider it of the utmost importance for the Socialist party to support all active efforts of the working class to better its condition and to elect Socialists to political offices, in order to facilitate the attainment of this end.

As such means we advocate:

1. The collective ownership of all means of transportation and communication and all other public utilities as well as of all industries controlled by monopolies, trusts and combines. No part of the revenue therefrom to be used on the reduction of the taxes of the capitalist class, but the entire revenue to be applied first, to the increase of wages and shortening of the hours of labor of the employees, and then to the improvement of the service and diminishing the rates to the consumers.
2. The progressive reduction of the hours of labor in proportion to the increasing facilities of production, to decrease the share of the capitalist class and to increase the share of the workers in the product of their labor.
3. State or national insurance of working men in case of accidents, lack of employment, sickness and want in old age, the revenue therefor to be derived from the government.
4. The inauguration of a system of public industries for the employment of the unemployed, the public credit to be utilized for that purpose, in order that the workers may receive the product of their labor.
5. The education of all children up to the age of 18 years, and state and municipal aid for books, clothing and food.
6. Equal civil and political rights for men and women.
7. The initiative and referendum, proportional representation and the right of recall of representatives by their constituents.

But in making these demands as steps in the overthrow of capitalism and in the establishment of the co-operative commonwealth, we warn the people against the public ownership demands made by capitalist political parties, which always result in perpetuating the capitalist system through the compromise or defect of the Socialist revolution.

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE—Leon Greenbaum, Room 427, Emilie Bldg., St. Louis, Mo.

CALIFORNIA STATE COMMITTEE—Secretary, John M. Reynolds, 422 Sutter street, San Francisco. Meets on first and third Fridays in the month.

CONNECTICUT STATE COMMITTEE—W. E. White, 229 Exchange street, New Haven, secretary. Meets second and fourth Sundays of the month at Anora Hall, 135 Union street, New Haven.

ILLINOIS STATE COMMITTEE—Secretary, R. A. Morris, 314 E. Indiana street, Chicago. Meets second and fourth Fridays in the month, at 65 North Clark street.

KENTUCKY STATE COMMITTEE—Secretary, Dr. Walter T. Roberts, 224 West Main street, Louisville, Ky.

MAINE STATE COMMITTEE—Secretary, N. W. Leonard, Thomaston.

MASSACHUSETTS STATE COMMITTEE—Secretary, Squire E. Putney, 4 Belmont street, Somerville; assistant and financial secretary, Albert G. Clifford, Mount Auburn station, Cambridge, Mass.

MICHIGAN STATE COMMITTEE—Secretary, John A. C. Menton, 1315 Saginaw street, Flint, Mich.

MINNESOTA STATE COMMITTEE—Secretary, Geo. B. Leonard, room 535, Andrew Bldg., Nicollet avenue and Fifth street, Minneapolis.

MISSOURI STATE COMMITTEE—Secretary, Wm. J. Hager, room 7, 22 North Fourth street.

NEW JERSEY STATE COMMITTEE—Secretary, John P. Weigel, Trenton, N. J. Meets third Sunday in the month, at 3 p. m., at Newark.

NEW YORK STATE COMMITTEE—Secretary, Leonard D. Abbott, 64 E. Fourth street, New York. Meets every Monday at 8 p. m., at above place.

OHIO STATE COMMITTEE—Secretary, W. G. Critchlow, 26 Pruden Bldg., Dayton. Meets every Monday evening.

PENNSYLVANIA STATE COMMITTEE—Secretary-treasurer, J. W. Quick, 6229 Woodland avenue, Philadelphia.

VERMONT STATE COMMITTEE—Secretary, P. V. Danahy, Brunswick House, Rutland.

WASHINGTON STATE COMMITTEE—Secretary, Joseph Gilbert, box 637 Seattle. Meets first Sunday in the month, 3 p. m., at 220 Union street.

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